Eccles 17 * N. 38

Eccles (Solomon)

THE QUAKERS CHALLENG, AT TWO SEVERAL WEAPONS.

TO THE

Baptists, Presbiters, Papists and other *Professors.*

BRITISH MUSEUM

The Quakers Challenge.

WHEREAS certain *Baptist* Teachers, whose work is to be-lie the Innocent, and to fill the peoples Ears with false reports; as did *Jeremiah Ives*, *Matthew Caffin*, and *William Burnet* behind my back at a dispute at *Chertsey* in *Surey*, with our friend *G. Whitehead*, and finding my self Innocent of the Accusation; and knowing that *Jeremy Ives*, and *Mat. Caffin*, to be known Enemies to the Lord, his Truth, and his People; and for these so doing, *I do here offer my self in Gods behalf, and Truths behalf, and in the behalf of the People scornfully call'd* Quakers.

I do Challenge *Matthew Caffin*, *Jeremy Ives*, and *William Burnet*, or any of the Teachers amongst the *Baptists*, or *Independants*, or *Presbiters*, or *Papists*, or *Jesuits high Priests*, *and low Priests*, for these are all blind Guides, and their profession is *rotten*, their Church is *Babilon*, their Faith is unsound, and their Doctrine is false for ever; and I will maintain it by these two Weapons, *Viz.*

To Fast seven daies and seven nights and not to Eat nor to Drink.

Drink. And the next Weapon is; *To Wake seven daies and seven nights, and not to Sleep till they be faithfully performed before the Lord*: And the God that answers by Fire shall be the true God; and he that the Lord shall carry through this fiery Tryal, shall be counted a Worshiper of the true God, and shall give him the glory and honour, and acknowledg his Power, who alone is worthy, who is over all God blessed for ever.

But he that tyres by the way, shall be counted a member *of a false Church, and a Heretick*, whose God is his Belly, whose Glory is his Shame, whose End is Destruction.

Come Papists with your Murthering Weapons: Will you maintain that your Church is a true Church which is establisht by Blood. *Answer* the *Quaker*; Was not the Devil a Murtherer from the beginning? your God is your Belly; for you pretend to Fast in Lent from *Flesh*, and yet you Eat *Fish*; and is there not a flesh of *Fish*, as well as of *Birds*, wherefore I testifie against you, *that your Faith is unsound, and your Church and Doctrine is false for ever*.

Come Protestants, Who are call'd by the name of *Presbiters, Independants*, and *Baptists, Fifth-Monarchy, Seventh day Sabbath-men*, and *Family of Love*; the *Quaker* denies you all, and is come to try you; not by the *tongue* which is your *glory, but by the belly*, for that is your *chief God*; for of a truth, you all are

Shut out of the Saints society,
And your book of the Practice of Piety.

Come *Papists* and *Protestants*, *Gogg* and *Magog*, will you be daunted by a *Quaker*? stand up *Presbiter with your hippocritical Fastings*, who fast for strife and debate, who for matter of Persecution there is none exceeds; you had need to be ranked next the *Papists*; for who so cruel as you against *the Truth, witness New England*, who cruelly Whipt our Friends, and afterwards hanged two Men and a Woman, who feared God, and eschewed Evil, and sent many into the Wilderness after they had been sorely Whipt in Frost and Snow, and we know, that if you had the Power in your hands again, We should feel your cruel *Weapons*, and *Halters*, and *Gibbets*: We know your hippocrasie of Old, towards God and his Truth. *Come go with me these fourteen daies journey*; and after this two times

seven

seven is over, we will have three times seven more, I never knew *the Quakers Conquered yet by all your cruel Weapons*, therefore if ever you conquer the *Quakers* it must be by Fasting and Watching.

Come Thom. Vinson who proffer'd the *Quakers* a Dispute, but when they came, thou fell'st a Preaching and Praying among a rude Multitude, and presently got away, *and would not answer them*; though a Servant of the Lord told thee, That thou didst Preach the Doctrine of Devils: *Come I have a mind to Challeng thee*, and thou shalt see I will not slink away as thou didst, but if thou doest not answer, if either *Papists*, or *Protestants*, *Jesuits* or *Priests* are willing to answer this Duel: Let them name their day and time; and for what God, and for what People; and I will answer you, or whom you can produce: yea, I will make you in the name of the Everlasting God that made Heaven and Earth, the Seas and Fountains of Waters, and in the behalf of his People scornfully cal'd *Quakers*, who are in the Truth and none but they; whose Principle is, Christ the true Light, that doth enlighten every man that comes into the World.

Who is in us the hope of Glory, and they that walk according to this rule, are the people of God and none else; and their Principle is the true Principle and none else, and it shall live, and out live all; and grow, and out grow all; for he is King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, who only hath Immortality dwelling in the Light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen or can see, to him be glory Everlasting, *Amen.* 1 *Tim.* 6. 13, 14.

Come *Jeremy Ives* thou false man, who did say, that that body, that hung upon the Tree, when the spirit was out of it, was but as an empty Trunk: Whereas thy Brethren *Jo. Lukis* and *Robert Porter* have affirmed before many witnesses, that the Blood that followed the Sphere was the Blood of the New-Covenant; *Did the Blood of the New-Covenant come out of an empty Trunk?* Why dost thou go about to overthrow the Faith of thy weak brethren; wherefore I Challeng thee, as *Elias* did the false Prophets, and thou *John Brown Baptist Teacher*, when thou wast asked of *G. W.* what became of the Blood that

followed the Speere, thou repliedst and said, (it sank into the Ground; *But did the Blood of the New-Covenant sink into the Ground?* You Blasphemers come and answer this Duel.

Stand up you sleepy Professors, and maintain your assertions; Come *Jeremy*, I must not pass thee by, for I testifie, thy Faith is false, and so is thy Doctrine, and thy Profession is rotten, and thy God is thy Belly, and thy Faith is the Faith of Devils that purifies not the heart: And was thy heart pure *Jeremy, when thou took'st an Oath in open Court*; O base: And yet take the Holy Scriptures into thy mouth to hold Disputes and Janglings, and ye the Scripture is against thee, and the Spirit that gave them forth, and the Saints in Light are against thee, and Jesus Christ the King of Saints is against thee, who said, *Swear not at all*: And his Apostle *James* is against thee; who said, *Above all things my Brethren Swear not at all, neither by Heaven, nor by Earth, nor by any other Oath.* Mark that *Jeremy.*

Stand up old Thomas Lamb, of whose Church *I was a Member*; but why didst thou take the Oath without any Mental reservation. Come old *Thomas*, and young *Thomas*, and help your brethren *Jer. Ives*, and *Mat. Caffin*, and *William Burnet*; For the *Quaker* denies your Church, and is come to the true Church, which is the Pillar and Ground of Truth, and the true Faith that overcomes the World is known, and the Rock of Ages is known, and the Ancient of daies is come, and the Tabernacle of God is with Men again: Glory over all be unto our God, that sits upon the Throne, and to the Lamb for evermore *Amen.*

Come *Will. Burnet* (Whats thy Faith good for) who saist in thy 15 *page*, That the Light that is in every man, is neither God, Christ, nor Spirit; and then thou saidst thou shalt indeaver to shew, what that Light is in every Man, and thou goest to prove it, to be Conscience and cites 2 *Rom.* 4.5. But doth not the thoughts in the mean while accuse or excuse; and what is that which shews unto Man his thoughts, is it not the Lord God of Hosts, *Amos* 4. 15. *Isa.* 42. 6. 7. *Isa.* 49. 6, 8. Thou false Messenger, for the true Prophets and Messengers of Truth Condemns thee, *Jo.* 1. 1, 15. And that of God in thy Conscience shall one day awaken in thee and Condemn thee, and then thou

shalt

ſhalt read me, who does bear witneſs to that, which is, the Light of Chriſt in thy Conſcience, *which was before Conſcience was*: Yea, is not all that made manifeſt, made manifeſt by the Light, *Eph.* 5. 13. O People hear him no more; for he that denieth the Father and the Son; yea, he hath denied God, and the Father and Chriſt: (Firſt, he hath denied God) read, for God who Commanded the Light to ſhine out of darkneſs, hath ſhined in our Hearts to give the Light of the knowledg of God in the face of Jeſus Chriſt, *Cor.* 2, 4, 6. Again, *John* the Divine will tell your Meſſenger *W. Bur.* That he is a falſe Meſſenger, for, this is the meſſage that we have received of *John*, and deliver unto you, That God is Light, and in him is no darkneſs at all; *Jo.* 1. 1. Whoſe Meſſenger is *W. B*? ſtop thy mouth for ſhame; and thou haſt denied the Father: *For every good and perfect gift cometh from the Father of Lights, Jerem.* 4. 17. And he hath denied the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, as all that paſs by may read; *John* 8. 12. 9. 5.

Therefore I Challenge thee for a falſe Profit, and an accuſer of the Brethren. Come *Baptiſts, Independants*, and *Presbiters*, and *Papiſts*, you talk of *Moſes, Elias*, and *Chriſt*, who faſted forty Daies, and forty Nights, and the Apoſtle of Chriſt did exerciſe himſelf much in Faſting and Watching 2 *Cor.* 6. 5. Let none of you ſay, that it is a tempting of God to ceaſe from Sin, for *Peter* ſaith, *They that ſuffer in the Fleſh, ceaſe from Sin.*

And *John Wiggins* the Blaſphemer hath left behind him a Writing, though he be gone to his long home; yet, in his Book he ſaith, That Chriſt the Light, that lighteth every Man that comes into the World, is an *Idol*: Let the Reader read, *Jo.* 8. 12, 9. 5. And he ſaies in his Book, That Chriſts Blood was not ſhed for all; but *John* the *Divine* bears Witneſs againſt him, *Jo.* 1. 1. *Rev.* 19. 13. all theſe make againſt him, and yet this man went for a Miniſter of the Goſpel, but he hath left a ſtink behind him, and better had it been for him, That a Milſtone had been hang'd about his neck and caſt into the Sea, than ever he ſhould have opened his mouth againſt the Saints in Light, or their Principle.

Come forth you *Jeſuits* and *Papiſts*, and *Monkes*, and *Friers* and *Star gazers*, and *Monthly-Prognoſticators*, and *Aſtrologers*

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and all the Devils *Conjurers*; will you not find a man to answer the *Quaker*: If you do find a Man, let him be known who he is, and for what God, and for what People; and let him send one to me, to see me perform my Challenge, and I shall send one to him, to see him perform his Answer: *Or we will be shut up togeter in one Room.*

Stand up Muggleton the *Sorcerer*, whose mouth is full of Cursing, Lies, and Blasphemy; who callst thy last Book a looking-glass for *G. Fox*, whose name thou art not worthy to take into thy mouth, who is a Prophet in deed, and hath been faithful in the Lords business from the beginning: It was said of Christ, That he was in the World, and the World was made by him; and the World knew him not: So it may be said of this true Prophet, whom *John* said, he was not; but thou wilt feel this Prophet one day as heavy as a Milstone upon thee; and although the World knows him not, yet he is known.

Thou saist in thy 84 *page*, of thy Pamphlet, that that Christ the *Quakers* are in: I that am but a man, have seperated their Christ from them; and one from another: This is fourteen years ago thou cursed them, and they are Blest for ever.

An. Those that went out from the Truth, were separated from Christ, before they *came to thee, and were never joyn'd to the Truth*, nor owned of us, therefore such may easily become thy Disciples, *being gone from God, his Truth, and his People*; and given up to believe lies, and so they have found out *Lodwick Muggleton* the lying Prophet.

Thou saist, thou hast Power over the *Quakers*, Christ within them, and that Judgment thou hast given upon the *Quakers*, will surely come to pass: Neither can you, nor your Christ within you, deliver you from it.

An. Thou Fool, The *Quakers* Christ within them, *Is the Corner-Stone which shall bruise thee to powder*; neither shall any deliver thee out of his hand, who is the true Light, that lightens the *Gentiles*, and Gods Salvation to the end of the World: but thou hast no share in these sayings.

Thou saist, The *Quakers* Principle within them, shall vanish like smoke.

An. The *Quakers* Principle, will shake thy Foundation, and

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all the Foundations of Men; it is the Foundation of many Generations, *and can never be moved.*

Thou saist, When I am dead, many of the seed of the *Serpent* shall have regard to my Writings, *page* 61.

An. Who should else? For thou art a Messenger of the Old *Serpent*, therefore, needs must his Seed have regard to thy Writings.

But why dost thou say, when I am dead? *who is dead already unto God, but alive to Sin and Blasphemy*: but when thou art dead as thou saist, thou shalt be dead indeed to God, but alive to the Pain; by the Worm that shall never dye, and for ever to be tormented: Neither shalt thou be able to shut out the sence of the Torment, but the smoak of thy Torment shall ascend for ever, and ever; and thy pain shall have no end, in the flame that cannot be quenched: And then thou shalt know, that thy Soul is Immortal and cannot Dye; and then thou shalt feel, what thou hast done against God, his Truth, and his People; unto which place thou art hastening. Now in the mean time, *I Challeng thee, or any of thy Disciples*; and will maintain, that thou art an *Epicure* whose God is thy belly, and thy end shall be everlasting Destruction from the presence of God: *The mouth of the Lord hath spoken it: and Repentance is hid from thy eyes.* Though thou didst tell me, that I was Damned, Body and Soul, to all Eternity; thy blessing and thy Curse is all one to me: thou saist, That God is no biger than a Man; and yet *Job* saith, God is greater than Man, *Job.* 33. 12. And again, thou saist, That thy God is a Man, and had Arms, and Shoulders as I had; but according to *Job* I shall answer thee: That God is not a Man as I am, *Job* 9. 32. Now all may see, That *Muggleton* is a false Prophet: For, God himself saith, *I am God and not Man the holy one in the midst of thee*, Hosea 11. 9. And thou hast often said, *That thy God is a God of Flesh, Blood, and Bones.* But Christ saith, *God is a Spirit, and hath not Flesh and Bones*, John 4. 24. Cor. 2. 3, 17. Luke 24. 39.

Come forth Robert Porter, thou shouldst answer this Duel, for art not thou the cause of this quarrel, and hath opened the mouth of Gods enemies against the Truth and his People: but is not thy God thy Belly, as the rest of thy lying Brethrens?

Come

Come forth, 'tis but fourteen dayes, and if I fall by the way, then maist thou say, *the Lord never sent me.*

Stand up all the Armies of the Beast, Papists, Jesuits, Presbiters, and *Baptists,* and all the false Prophets of the Nation.

Come *Glocester* Professors, to whom I writ a Challenge once, but none would answer me; come *William Shepard* the Lawyer, and *Thomas Marriot*; Come *William Jordan* the *Presbiter*, who said, thou wouldst fast with me 39 dayes, and I could never get thee to fast one. O ye *Presbiters* are horrible lyers, but this is my Councel to you all, you that have had a hand in speaking against the *Quakers* Principles.

Houle you Papists and Jesuits, Houle houle; yea *Presbiters* houle; yea *Baptists*, for the Woes, Judgments, Plagues, and Torments, will assuredly come upon you, suddenly as a Woman in pain of travel, and you shall not escape, the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. *O, Woe will be to every one that hath spoken against the Light, and hath lifted Tongue, or Pen against the Lords Heritage.* Well, shall it be with that Man that can say, God be thanked, *I never spake against the Light, nor the People that walk therein*; yea, though they cannot be excused for other Sins; yet they shall be glad that they did not meddle with *such weighty things*, but all they that have so done, shall weep bitterly, and gnaw their Tongues for pain: Oh I say again, Repent speedily, before it be too late, that ever you lifted up a Tongue, or Hand, or Pen, against the Light of Jesus Christ, which doth enlighten every man that comes into the World, or against his only People; for never did any thrive, that spake against the *Quakers*.

I am a Friend to all the upright in Heart, and one who loves the appearance of Jesus Christ; Who do write my Name

Solomon Eccles.

The 17 of the Nineth Month, 1668.

THE END.